

centipoise, the foam or froth being of a type that breaks down fairly quickly such that the coated web has enough permeability to permit drying air to penetrate the coated web and applying said foam at a rate to produce a dry mat having a coating on one face and having a permeability of at least about 338 CFM/sq. ft.

17. (Amended) A permeable, foam coated, fibrous, nonwoven mat made by the process described in claim 16 wherein an aqueous binder is first applied to the wet, partially dewatered web and the wet, bindered web is passed over a suction box to reduce the binder content to a desired level prior to applying the foam or froth onto the top surface of the wet web.

18.(Amended) A permeable, foam coated, fibrous, nonwoven mat made by the process described in claim 17 wherein at least the majority are glass fibers and said foam is applied at a rate to produce a dry mat having a permeability of at least about 350 CFM/sq.ft.

19. (Amended) A permeable, foam coated, fibrous, nonwoven mat made by the process described in claim 16 wherein said foam is applied at a rate to produce a dry mat having a permeability of at least about 500 CFM/sq.ft.

20. (Amended) A permeable, foam coated, fibrous, nonwoven mat made by the process described in claim 16 wherein said foam has a blow ratio between about 15 and about 30.

21. (Amended) A permeable, foam coated, fibrous, nonwoven mat made by the process described in claim 16 wherein the amount of liquid formed in the bottom of the Imhoff cone is less than about 2 millimeters.

22. (Amended) A permeable, foam coated, fibrous, nonwoven mat made by the process described in claim 18 wherein the amount of liquid formed in the bottom of the Imhoff cone is less than about 2 millimeters.

23. (Amended) A laminate comprising a first material layer bonded to a second layer of a nonwoven fibrous mat, the mat having an exposed foam coating and made by the process described in claim 16.

24. (Amended) A laminate comprising a first material layer bonded to a second layer of a nonwoven fibrous mat, the mat having an exposed foam coating and made by the process described in claim 17.

41. (Amended) A permeable, foam coated, fibrous, nonwoven mat made by the process comprising making a permeable fibrous mat on a wet process mat machine in which an aqueous slurry containing fibers is continuously deposited onto the top surface of a moving permeable forming belt, partially dewatered, followed by applying an excess of an aqueous binder, removing excess aqueous binder to form a wet, bindered web and drying the wet, bindered web to produce a dry non-woven fibrous mat, the improvement comprising applying a foam or froth onto the wet, bindered web after said web, the foam or froth having a blow ratio of at least about 12, the foam forming less than 5 millimeters of liquid in the bottom of an Imhoff cone after 16 hours from filling and a viscosity of at least about 200 centipoise, the foam or froth being of a type that breaks down fairly quickly such that the coated web has enough permeability to permit drying air to penetrate the coated web and applying said foam at a rate to produce a dry, mat having a coating on one face, the mat having a permeability of at least about 338 CFM/sq. ft.

42. (Amended) A permeable, foam coated, fibrous nonwoven mat made by the process described in claim 41 and wherein at least the majority of fibers are glass fibers.

43. (Amended) A permeable, foam coated, fibrous, nonwoven mat made by the process described in claim 42 and wherein said foam is applied at a rate to produce a dry mat permeability of at least about 350 CFM/sq.ft.

44. (Amended) A permeable, foam coated, fibrous, nonwoven mat made by the process described in claim 42 and wherein said foam is applied at a rate to produce a dry mat having a permeability of at least about 500 CFM/sq.ft.

45. (Amended) A permeable, foam coated, fibrous, nonwoven mat made by the process described in claim 41 wherein the foam has a blow ratio of at least about 25.

46. (Amended) A permeable, foam coated, fibrous, nonwoven mat made by the process described in claim 42 wherein the amount of liquid formed in the bottom of an Imhoff cone filled with foam and allowed to age is less than about 2 millimeters.

47. (Amended) A permeable, foam coated, fibrous, nonwoven mat made by the process described in claim 42 wherein the foam has a blow ratio of at least about 25.

48. (Amended) A laminate comprising a first layer of material bonded to a second layer of a nonwoven fibrous mat, the mat having an exposed foam coating and made by the process comprising making a permeable fibrous mat on a wet process mat machine in which an aqueous slurry containing fibers is continuously deposited onto the top surface of a moving permeable forming belt, partially dewatered, followed by applying an excess of aqueous binder, removing excess aqueous binder to form a wet, bindered web and drying the wet, bindered web to produce a dry non-woven fibrous mat, the improvement comprising applying a foam or froth onto the wet, bindered web after said web, the foam or froth having a blow ratio of at least about 12, the foam forming less than 5 millimeters of liquid in the bottom of an Imhoff cone after 16 hours from filling and a viscosity of at least about 200 centipoise, the foam or froth being of a type that breaks down fairly quickly such that the coated web has enough permeability to permit drying air to penetrate the coated web and applying said foam at a rate to produce a dry, mat having a coating on one face, the mat having a permeability of at least about 338 CFM/sq. ft.

49. (Amended) A laminate comprising a first layer of material bonded to a second layer of a nonwoven fibrous mat, the mat having an exposed foam coating and made by the process described in claim 48 and wherein at least the majority of fibers are glass fibers and said foam is applied at a rate to produce a dry mat having a permeability of at least about 350 CFM/sq.ft.

REMARKS

Claims 16-26 and 41-51 remain in the application. Claims 1-15, 27-40 and 52-56 stand withdrawn and have been cancelled without any meaning that applicant has abandoned the pursuit of obtaining a patent on the invention covered by these claims.

The remaining claims have been amended to address the objection that the claims depend from non-elected claims. The presently claimed invention is a wet laid non-woven mat made using a known wet process modified in an inventive way by applying a froth or foam to either a wet, partially dewatered fibrous web or to a wet, partially dewatered aqueous bindered web, on the same machine used to form and apply binder to the mat,